

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER NO. LTC # 070-2006

LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO:

Mayor David Dermer and Members of the City Commission

FROM:

Jorge M. Gonzalez, City Manager

DATE:

March 17, 2006

SUBJECT: 7250 Collins Avenue

This Letter to the Commission is to provide you information on the condition of the North Shore Community Center, a facility located at 7250 Collins Avenue.

The roof at this facility was completely destroyed during Hurricane Wilma, and subsequently, the interior has also been damaged by water intrusion, mold and mildew, and will need to be restored once the building is dried in.

The Public Works Department has been working closely with FEMA representatives, who in addition to funding the total replacement of the destroyed roof, have agreed to fund structural hardening improvements as long as FEMA specifications are complied with.

To complete these repairs, the City will be using a State Negotiated Agreement Price Schedule (SNAPS) contractor with State negotiated and pre-determined prices. The roof deck repairs will be completed in about 60 to 70 days. Once this is completed, the building will no longer be subject to water intrusion. The remainder of the roof work should be completed in another 30 days. Once the roof work is completed, we will start the interior restoration work to get the facility fully operational as quickly as possible.

Unfortunately, this process of working with FEMA, developing specifications and plans, awarding a contract and obtaining permits, has taken longer than expected.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me.

JMG: DM

Attachment

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COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA LOCAL 3178 – MIAMI BEACH AFL-CIO - CLC

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March 1, 2006

Mayor & City Commission 1700 Convention Center Drive Miami Beach, Fl 33139

Dear Mayor Dermer and Commissioners

I would like to bring to your attention a City building that has been neglected for many years. The building in question is the 7250 Collins Ave. building.

Since the last hurricane, the roof leaks so bad that the ceiling has fallen down in many places. We get flooded every time it rains. Currently, the only entity occupying this building is the Ocean Rescue Division/Fire Department North headquarter. At the current pace, it will be demolition by neglect.

This particular building and the previous one, the Biscayne House of Refuge have had 130 years of glorious lifesaving history.

I think that this building is worth saving and restoring. I have attached two pictures of the building taken in 1966, some 40 years ago.

We need to act now:

- 1. The building needs to have an emergency roof repair right away before the rainy season.
- 2. We need to temporary fix the interior.
- 3. We need to restore the building to its original architecture and purpose.

This is a win-win situation for the City and the North Beach Community but time is of the essence.

Sincerely

Richard D. McKinnon President of CWA Local 3178